

Understanding the coming kingdom of the Lord <sup>Ps 107:43</sup>

1. His loving kindness toward the Fallen <sup>Ps 107:10-16</sup>

A. One Sunday several years ago, I remember sitting in the church w/ a few of the other people who were waiting for prison time to start. My pastor came in and began to tell us that we were going w/ him to preach @ the Penitentiary Co. Prison around, I had an "emotional" look on my face and a "praised be his name" all over my face. I heard "on my lips, but in my heart I heard a 'What?' I just couldn't seem to hear it! Upon leave got to be kidding me! I was scared to death! They are going to hate me & spit on me, & only know what they are going to do to me. But little did I know that the jail ministry would allow me to see him!

II. The Bondage of The Fallen <sup>vs 10-11</sup>

A. As we approach v10-11 all I can see is the scene of a prison. A dark damp dungeon walls & cries of shackled souls echo down the prison halls. I often tell the guard that I feel because of their sinful condition some walk down the cell, they are so dark - vs 10a - Prison to the cell, they are so dark because they sit in darkness. Because of their sinful condition that results in them they are found to be dark, chained to it inescapably. They can not see the way to God! v11 - When the God of the world... Have you ever witnessed the

Someone and they just didn't get it? They go upon might, they just didn't... I preached a message once called "they just didn't get it" about "several"

They were blinded. I was going to show that it takes more... willie... war, it takes H.C. to lift blinders. <sup>John</sup>

C. Bond to their Destruction vs 10 B - Do you realize that this inmate is on death row

The cool shadow of death looms over this cell. In the heart of every man resides a God given will to live: "I don't want to die"

Yet in this prison the sound of execution is a constant reminder: 10 out of 10 people die. For those on death row, the sting of death is very real. Do you remember the chilling fear of death? What if die today? These fallen live daily under the bond to their Destruction vs 10c - It seems like it would be hard enough to be locked up in darkness on death row, but no "The way of the righteous is hard and we find the way to prison here" under the bond of affliction. And we all have trouble and affliction Pain + suffering is one aspect of prison but None can escape the spiritual law of sowing & reaping <sup>Hebrew 8:13</sup> sow to the wind, reap the whirlwind <sup>Col 3:13</sup> God is sowing: "double bondage" <sup>Stuart Chap. 1</sup> Remember the prison

E. Bond in their Defiance <sup>vs 11</sup> Why is the pit prisoner here? What are the charges they are against him? vs 11 - Words of God: Command of God They rebelled against the word of God. The revealed word of God says "This is the way, walk ye in it" and they refuse God: "Thou shalt not... prison" this all do, God: Command all men... Prisoner "No" Not only commands but causal, word not only law to be kept but causal of what is lost

Born the highest wisdom of a superior God, yet they go their own way! <sup>Spurgeon</sup> They thought that they knew better than the Judge of all the earth, and... that left his name and



### III. Breaking of the Fallen vs 12

A. In response to the fallen rebellion in our last point, God brings on the captivity of verse 10. vs 12 gives us insight into the heart of the fallen in their imprisonment. A Heart cumbered with labor vs 12A - This imprisonment was not like that of today. A story in a really bad motel, no there was heavy labor involved, he was on the chain gang. The word labor here has a variety of applications, trouble, affliction, disappointment, sorrow, worry, worry. God used this labor: the recompense of law breaking to bring down the heart. Brought down = to bend the knee. God placed these crosses of life so heavy upon the fallen that they can no longer bear up under.

C. A held crumbling in loneliness vs 13B - From here is where we have met the group of people: Fallen. They fell! They folded up. Their back on life crumpled. Last week looked at the fainting, in desert of great need they cried out. This week God hurles a heavy blow knocking the sinner to the ground. I thought of Sat morning wrestling shows as a kid. This was a smack down! God brought down the haughty, prideful, rebellious sinner to the wall. Notice also there was more to help. They were alone. Brought down and more to help bring them to their feet. No one to turn to, no one to respond. The only way to look now is up! They were

IV. Blessing

CA. Was not a blessing to see God

B. The blessing of the Brimley

C. The blessing of the Brimley

The Blessing of the Fallen vs 13-16  
It would have all been over, this fallen man would have been done for had he not known who the only person to cry out to

The Blessing of the Brimley  
Once blinded by the God of this world now through the seeing power of Christ the darkness is dispelled. I once was blind but now I see! It was said of John the Baptist the forerunner that the Gospel "brings" give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. No longer is the executioner breath down my neck! No longer is the cool shadow of death cast over me! At the moment of a pitiful cry of repentance, my sins were placed on Christ. There is no longer no condemnation on the sinner in Christ Jesus Gal 2:14 Blotting out the hand-

The Blessing of the Brimley vs 14B+16  
Down at the jail, an oft asked hymn to sin is "He set me free" rather fitting song. Once like a bird in prison I dwelt, then Jesus came and bled to me... He set me free... "He broke the bondage of sin and affliction. The trouble that confined and prevented me is gone. Sin hath no more dominion over me. The labor of sin that weighed down my heart has been obliterated. The gates of judgment that held me in have been broken! No sting of death! Rev 15:15 The sight of such goodness makes a sight-minded man long to see the Lord duly honored for his amazing mercy. When dragons doors fly open and chains are snapped who can refuse to adore the glorious goodness of the Lord?

and?